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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CODE OF WARTIME PRACTICES
For the American Press and Radio

This Code covers everything published—newspapers, press services, periodicals, magazines, books, newsletters, reports, directories, almanacs, trade and financial papers and all else—and everything broadcast by standard, point-to-point nonmilitary, frequency modulation, facsimile and television stations and all else in the United States.

This is the guide by which you are expected to censor your own operations. If in doubt, call, write, or telegraph the Office of Censorship, Apex Building, Washington 25, D. C., Telephone EXecutive 3800.

EDITION OF MAY 15, 1945

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CODE OF WARTIME PRACTICES

Edition of May 15, 1945

SPECIAL NOTE

The Code of Wartime Practices is issued pursuant to instructions by the President, who commissioned the Office of Censorship to supervise domestic voluntary censorship.

You are reminded that whenever anyone else, in any part of the country, makes a request which appears unreasonable or out of harmony with the Code, you are at liberty to appeal at once to the Office of Censorship.

Much confusion would be avoided if such appeals were more frequent.

This Edition of the Code reflects certain changes resulting from the victory in Europe and combines and supersedes previous editions of the Codes for Press, Broadcasters, and Non-Military Radio Services. It seeks to underline the great responsibility which will continue to rest on American broadcasters, publishers, and editors until the day of victory in the Far East.

The war against Japan is a major war. American life is equally precious whether endangered by an Asiatic enemy or a European enemy. So long as our armed forces still fight, the Press and Broadcasters must keep their unceasing vigil.

The Code is but a guide and cannot cover all possible contingencies. Ask yourself always, "Is this information I would like to have if I were the enemy?" and then act accordingly, remembering that the use of "speculation" as a device to cloak information helpful to the enemy undermines the purpose of voluntary censorship.

Publishers and editors also should remember that advertising, business reports, letters to editors, or society news—in short, anything in print—has dangerous possibilities. Broadcasters should measure all programs—special events, forums, interviews, and commercial continuity included—against this Code's requests.

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP,
BYRON PRICE, *Director*.

CODE OF WARTIME PRACTICES

All media of publication and radio are asked not to publish or broadcast information in the following classes **except when such information is made available for publication or broadcast by appropriate authority or is specifically cleared by the Office of Censorship:**

(As used throughout this Code the term "Pacific-Asiatic area" means the Far Eastern combat zone, including the southwestern Alaskan peninsula, and the land and water areas of the entire Pacific Ocean except the coastal waters of South America, and extending westward on land and sea to and including Aden, Capetown, and the east coast of Africa. See map on back cover.)

WAR PLANS

Secret war plans, or diplomatic negotiations or conversations which concern military operations.

ENEMY ATTACKS

Information about actual or impending enemy attacks on continental United States.

ARMED FORCES

Identity, movement, or prospective movement of Allied Army, Navy, or Marine Corps units which are in, have been alerted for, or are on their way to, the Pacific-Asiatic area from American territory anywhere; those moving or about to move directly from Europe to the Pacific-Asiatic area.

Exact composition, character and equipment of Allied troops which are in, or preparing for, service in the Pacific-Asiatic area.

Identification of members of the Allied Armed Forces with military or naval units or ships, when such units or ships are in, or en route to, or are returning from, the Pacific-Asiatic area.

Identification of combat casualties until made available by the War or Navy Department or next of kin.

SHIPS

Identity, location, character, description, movements, and prospective movements of naval vessels, transports, and convoys.

Identity, location, cargoes, and movements of merchant vessels.

Existence of mine fields or other harbor defenses, including secret guides to navigators.

Dates of launchings and commissionings of naval vessels.

Information about the sinking or damaging from war causes of war or merchant vessels.

PLANES

Disposition, composition, movements, missions, or strength of Allied military air units within or proceeding to or from the Pacific-Asiatic area; military activities of commercial air lines in the Pacific-Asiatic area.

Information concerning new and current military aircraft and related items of equipment.

FORTIFICATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

Location and description of fortifications, coast defense emplacements, antiaircraft guns and other air defense installations, including defense installation details of public airports used for military purposes; location or description of camouflaged objects.

PRODUCTION

New or secret weapons, identity and location of plants making them; secret designs, formulas, processes or experiments connected with the war.

Rate of production of matériel used in or for specialized military operations.

Movement or transportation of war matériel.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

Information concerning war intelligence or counterintelligence, operations, methods or equipment of the United States, its allies, or the enemy.

Secret detection devices.

Secret United States or Allied means or systems of military communications.

WAR PRISONERS

Information as to arrival, movements, confinement or identity of military prisoners from the Pacific-Asiatic area.

TRAVEL

Advance information on routes, times, and methods of travel by the President.

Movements of ranking Army, Navy, and Marine officers to, from, or within the Pacific-Asiatic area.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND MAPS

Photographs or maps conveying any of the information specified in other sections of this Code; aerial photographs of harbors, war plants, military or vital defense installations.

NOTES AND REMINDERS

Combat Zone Interviews and Letters.—Interviews with service men or civilians involving combat zones (including accounts of escapes) should be submitted before publication or broadcast either to the Office of Censorship or the appropriate Army or Navy public relations officer.

Letters from combat areas are censored in the field only for home consumption, not for publication or broadcast. When such letters are published or broadcast, information in conflict with provisions of this Code should be eliminated. Special care should be used in handling escape accounts to eliminate all escape details and information which might lead to reprisals or endanger future escapes.

Accredited Military and Naval Correspondents.—No provisions in this Code modify obligations assumed by accredited correspondents who accompany Army or Navy forces or are given special accrediting by the War or Navy Department to visit restricted areas in the United States. The accrediting department concerned is the censorship agency for all resultant material.

War News Coming Into the United States.—Generally, war information originating outside United States territory may be published or broadcast if its origin is made plain (no material conflicting with the Code should be added in rewriting information received from abroad).

Information from the United Kingdom which has not been cleared by British Censorship should not be published or broadcast if it conflicts with this Code.

Material sent across the United States-Canadian border should contain nothing that conflicts with censorship restrictions of the country in which it originates.



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